

## Lethbridge Experimental Station Weekly Letter

### FERTILIZERS FOR FORTY-NINE

The use of commercial fertilizers is an accepted part of the irrigated farm program. Sugar beets are always seeded with fertilizer, as also very often are canning corn and peas. The wise irrigated farmer also broadcasts phosphate fertilizers on his alfalfa fields when the yields show indications of falling below normal, or dandelions begin replacing the alfalfa, unless the alfalfa is failing because of bacterial wilt.

Under dry land farming conditions the responses from fertilizer vary. The results of fertilizer tests on wheat in southern Alberta in 1948, as in 1947 indicate little response in south-eastern Alberta, but fair to good response in the south-west. In other words, most of the soil types in the brown soil zone, with the possible exception of the clays in the northern part of this zone, indicated little if any increases in yields from commercial fertilizers. In the dark brown soil zone, especially in the eastern and northern portions fairly good increases in the yields of wheat were obtained on the medium and heavy soil types.

The most consistent responses from fertilizers have been obtained on the black soils in the western part of the district. Also from the increases in yields of cereal crops the earlier maturity is of vital importance in this area. For example, with the late spring of 1948, many fields in the foothills area were damaged by frost. In one case under test the wheat from a black (unfertilized) strip in a fertilized field was lower in yield and two pounds lighter per bushel in weight. On fertilized hay lots in this same area, in-

creases in yields of up to 24% were obtained in 1948.

Where a farmer plans to use fertilizer in 1949, it will be a wise policy to obtain the fertilizer and the fertilizer attachment, if required, early in the winter to avoid possible disappointment in the spring as has happened in the past few years because of deficient supplies.

### MOTORISTS WARNED OF CARBON MONOXIDE

Now that the cold weather season is approaching in Alberta, warning is sounded for car drivers of the dangers of carbon monoxide fumes.

Each year there are instances of the dreadful effects of these poisonous fumes, and they take their death toll despite the appeal to motorists to be on guard.

Many old type cars are on the highways and the drivers of these vehicles should in particular be on the alert against carbon monoxide.

One car expert stresses the need of a thorough car check-up at this period to ensure against carbon monoxide and also to locate any car defects that should be remedied prior to the winter period. Such can be done through proper winterizing to make certain that the vehicle is in proper shape.

Guard against carbon monoxide by having a window open to admit fresh air when starting up the car in the garage. Fatal accidents have occurred when this precaution was neglected.

Always remember that carbon monoxide is a deadly lurking menace. Take no chances. Advise others to

do the same. That will mean fewer motor driving fatalities this winter.

## My Week

by R. J. Deachman

Never in the past have I discussed my drinking habits but at the moment a word or two might be appropriate. I take, in the course of a year, from three to 25 drinks of intoxicating beverages and never more than one on the same day. This devotion to the occasional "wee drop" has never affected my health but it keeps me from being called a teetotaler which always strikes me as a word with a diminutive connotation.

Once this summer when we were on our holidays I walked eight miles one afternoon with another chap from New York who always seemed to enjoy a walk, no matter how long. That night I felt chilly and remarked to my wife that I wished we had brought a bit of rum with us. She said: "Its over there on the dresser has been there since we came". Isn't that risky?" I said. "No," she replied: "Look at the label. Do you think any one would want to drink my medicine?"

I looked, my wife's name was on it, the name of the doctor and the instructions "Two tablespoonsful every two hours when necessary." I obeyed instructions, took two doses at once, went to bed and slept ten hours. That was during the first week of August, then I quit drinking until the night of the Truman landslide.

I wanted to see the little man elector. I have a high regard for him but I didn't think he had a chance, I doubt if many Canadians thought he had. Then the news started to come in, he looked like a winner. About ten o'clock at night the prospects were looking pretty bright. I remarked to the "Little Woman", "If Truman wins I will take a drink". "Take it now," she said, "it may help Truman." This was about 10 o'clock. I took it and slept soundly—victory came with the morning. My wife may have been right again—she often is.

The victory of Truman will be a mystery in American politics for many years. It will be discussed when ordinary economic subjects have been forgotten. One thing that helped was his courage. It was a situation which would have broken the heart of a less stalwart man. What is courage? The best definition I ever heard was: "Fighting with the scabbard when the sword is broken." Truman had that kind of courage.

Then Dewey was not the type of man who appealed to the American people. He represented the man they never knew—Truman was the man everybody knew. He did not wrap

his garments about him and keep away from them. The farmers felt that he was the type of man who could sit down in the center of a barbed wire fence and talk about the price of hogs. He didn't need to do these things—they knew he could—and they knew quite clearly that Dewey couldn't and wouldn't if he could.

Dewey skated around the issues. He never tried to break a lance in an attack on any problem—he was always saving lances. The people like to see the man who faces problems, stresses his views, voices his opinions. Of this we may be sure Truman has established a pattern. Many will try to copy it—they will fail. It can't be done. What Truman did came from the heart and mind of Truman. It was in him or it would not have come out of him. Greatness cannot be copied. It is inherent in the character of the man—or it doesn't exist. It wasn't necessary for me to have taken that drink. Truman would have won without it.

It is good to see a great nation express its opinion, elect its rulers, then go on with the ordinary affairs of life just as if there had never

been a clash of opinions. I cannot recall an American election in which Canadian interest was so deep. Most Canadians I think were in sympathy with Truman. Slowly American opinion is being reshaped. The United States is no longer an isolated nation. It is the world's greatest power. Life in Canada, might be very different, if Stalin dwelt in Washington—different for us in Canada, different for Truman.

### WILL DISCUSS EXTRA LEVY ON MOTORISTS

The Alberta levy of an extra \$1 charge on motorists for the Automobile Accident Indemnity Act is to be discussed when the annual meeting of the Alberta Motor Association is held in Calgary, November 6 according to officials.

It has been estimated that more than \$200,000 has been accumulated in this fund, while claims against it have been negligible.

Purpose of the fund when it was established was to set up an "unsatisfied judgement fund" in effect. This meant that compensation would be in hand for persons injured in car accidents and unable to collect damages from the motorist responsible for the accident.

One province at least which has such a fund suspended the collection of the \$1 fee from motorists last year, owing to the small number of claims by injured motorists.

In Alberta it had been understood

that proceeds of the fund would be used at least in part for the establishment of a system of tests of those seeking drivers licenses. While it had been expected, such a system was not put into effect this year.

### SAID IN THE CAPITAL

"The international situation today is grave and if the world is plunged into another conflict Canada will inevitably be forced to enter the picture", said here Rt. Hon. Louis St. Laurent during an address at a civic reception for lawyers.

"My greatest impression was the tremendous industrial development in the west", remarked Sir Alexander Clutterbuck, British High Commissioner returning here after a tour of Western Canada.

"The board is of the opinion that deferment of action at the present moment in Canada will be wise in the public interest from a technical viewpoint and may help secure a good investment by listeners in receivers", explained A. D. Dunton, chairman, Canadian Broadcasting Corp. why the Board of Governors delayed television broadcasting station rights for Canada when such applications were made.

"Things are not hopeless as long as the Russians remain in Paris", commented Transport Minister Lionel Chevrier, who headed the Canadian delegation to the United Nations when he arrived back in the capital from overseas.

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### APPLICATION FOR LOCKER PLANT LICENSE

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A policy of restricting such licenses has been adopted and only one license will be issued at this point. Application will be received from other interested persons for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of this notice.

Application forms may be obtained from the Dairy Branch, Department of Agriculture, Edmonton.

Dated at Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, this  
12 day NOVEMBER, 1948.

D. B. McCALLUM  
DAIRY COMMISSIONER  
Edmonton, Alberta.

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